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DAILY REVIEW OF THE ARABIC PRESS



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EMBASSY OF THE U.S.A., CAIRO-EGYPT.

FRIDAY August 6th, 1948.
MONDAY August 9th, 1948.

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"The Jews seek peace and ask for
a round-table conference with the Arabs.
Arabs refuse".

Under the above heading Al Misri publishes a report to the effect that the Jews have asked for direct negotiations with the Arabs but their request was rejected by the Arab states. The story is given wide publicity by the Arabic press but so far only Al Misri has commented on it.

Under the headline: "A proposal for propaganda", Al Misri says: "It seems that the Jews wish to make the world think that they seek Arab friendship. The Jewish request for negotiations with the Arabs, however, is but a wicked Zionist manoeuvre. The Jews must have known that their request would be met with contempt by the Arabs who do not recognize the authority of those who wish to negotiate with them. They also must have known that the Arabs would never enter into negotiations which are based on the false assumption that Israel is a fait accompli.

"If the Jews really desire to make peace with the Arabs, then the way is clear before them. The Arabs have nothing against the peaceful Jewish civilian inhabitants of Palestine or anywhere else. They are merely opposed to the wicked Jewish gangs which imagine that they can establish a Jewish state in Palestine against the Arabs' will. If the Jews want peace, they must accept the Arab proposals which are at once practical and just".

The refugees problem.

Al Misri publishes a short editorial in which it points out that the number of the Arab refugees in the South of Palestine alone is 160,000. If it takes say P.T.5 daily to feed each refugee, the sum of LE 240,000 will be needed monthly to feed this number. There are also some 350,000 refugees in Egypt, Transjordan, Syria, and Lebanon. They cost the Arab Governments a huge sum of money daily to feed, says Al Misri. Besides, those refugees are living under terrible conditions, and it is the duty of the Arab authorities to solve this problem quickly, concludes the paper.

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Akhbar El Yom reviewed.

Akhbar El Yom, the pro-government magazine, is the only Arabic paper which appeared in Egypt during the Bairam holidays (August 7th and 8th).

Under the headline: "A Communist plot in Cairo to get rid of the President of the Hungarian Republic", the weekly publishes an interesting story which it claims to have received from its Paris Correspondent, in which Mr Peter Nagy, the Hungarian Chargé d'Affaires in Egypt, is accused of conspiring against his former chief, the Hungarian Minister Mr Viktor Csornoky, with a view to force the President of the Hungarian Republic Mr Zoltan Tildy (the Minister's father-in-law) to resign office.

Akhbar El Yom explains that Nagy, acting under orders from the Communist party in Hungary, put forged documents in Csornoky's luggage which were meant to show that the latter had sold the Hungarian secret code to the American Embassy in Cairo. When Csornoky arrived in Hungary for consultations with the authorities, he was arrested and the planted forged documents were found in his luggage. *

A full translation of Akhbar El Yom's article appears in Le Journal d'Egypte of Sunday August 8th (Pages 1 and 9).

Ahmed Sadoek Pasha's home searched.

Akhbar El Yom reports that the Egyptian police searched the home of well-known Egyptian Ahmed Sadoek Pasha. Al Assas of August 9th, reports that the police found things at his home which showed that the Pasha might be implicated in the recent bomb outrages which wrecked Jewish shops.

Bernadotte's representative asks for official report on the Cicurel and Jewish quarter explosions.

Akhbar El Yom says that Count Bernadotte's representative in Egypt asked for the official report of the Egyptian parquet on the explosions which took place at Cicurel and the Jewish quarter in Cairo.

The Parquet's report on Stephen Haas' murder.

Akhbar El Yom writes: "The Public Prosecutor submitted a report on the incident of the American Botanist who was murdered by some natives at the Citadel following the air-raid on Cairo. The natives thought that he was a Zionist who was attempting to take a snapshot of the Citadel which is considered a military installation. Investigations proved that the Egyptian police did their duty and went quickly to the scene of the incident where they saved the wife of the American from the crowd and arrested the criminals. Nokrash Pasha gave instructions that the body of the American scientist should be sent to the U.S.A. at the expense of the Egyptian government, and that the government also bear the cost of his wife's return trip to the U.S.A. The American government considered the matter closed, seeing that the incident was merely due to bad luck."

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Daskshoosh.

Akhbar El Yom reports that the Czechoslovakian Government found in the books of some Czechoslovakian firm which was recently taken over by the State, evidence that the firm paid a senior Egyptian a sum of money as bakshoosh to help it secure certain tender from the Egyptian government.

Munition and airplane factories
for Egypt.

The same weekly reports that Minister of Defence Haidar Pasha made a speech before some 800 Egyptian army officers who were recently promoted to higher ranks, in which he said that Egypt would soon have her own munition and airplane factories.

Akhbar El Yom abhors bomb
outrages.

Akhbar El Yom publishes an editorial under the headline: "A hand which is not Egyptian", in which it says: "Egyptian public opinion abhors the recent bomb outrages. No sane person believes that these crimes were committed by Egyptians, seeing that Egypt cannot benefit by such outrages the victims of which are Egyptians. Such crimes can only result in the foreigners alleging that the Egyptian police are unable to maintain public order. Of course it is possible that some mad Egyptians have committed these crimes, not knowing what is good for Egypt and what is bad. Such crazy people are not alone to blame. The Zionists taught them that the world was more impressed by the sound of explosions than by humane thoughts. Thank heaven anyway that none of the recent outrages resulted in the loss of hundreds of lives as in the case of such Zionist crimes as the blowing up of King David Hotel.

"But let no Egyptian labour under the false impression that the Egyptian government will shut its eyes to these crimes. The Military Governor can and will arrest the culprits".

King Farouk will not visit Ankara.

Akhbar El Yom quotes a "High Palace Source" as saying to its reporter that there is no truth whatsoever in the rumour that H.M. King Farouk intends to visit Turkey in the near future. The paper says that it was rumoured recently that the king intended to visit Ankara in September or October this year to discuss with the Turkish authorities the question of the formation of an Eastern bloc to comprise the Arab countries, Turkey, and Greece. The report is completely false, states the weekly.

The government versus the opposition.

Nokrashi Pasha's government confiscated all the opposition newspapers that are issued this morning August 9th, namely Al Misri, Sawt Al Umma, and Al Kutla. The reason for this action is unknown.

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America in the Arabic press.

There are no abusive articles about the U.S.A. in the Arabic press this morning. Al Ahram gives special prominence to the report that the U.S.A. won during the first week of the Olympiad 23 gold medals whereas all the nations of the world, combined, won 14 medals.

----- Palestine:

Al Ahram publishes a message from its Baghdad correspondent in which he quotes the Iraqi Prime Minister, Nuzahin Al Fashachi as saying that the Palestinian problem can only be solved by force of arms.

The same daily reports that the Egyptian authorities was formally notified on August 7th by Count Bernadotte that the Jews wished to enter into direct negotiations with the Arabs. The paper says that the Mediator did not comment on the Jewish approach but merely acted as "postman". Al Ahram also says that it asked an official Arab source whether or not the Arabs would agree to negotiate. The reply was: "The Arabs treat the invitation with contempt. In fact they do not consider the invitation to be existent seeing that it was made by a quarter which the Arabs do not recognize".

Al Ahram itself comments on the invitation with the following few words: "It is strange that Count Bernadotte communicates this official Zionist request to the Arabs when he knows that there is no base on which the request may be founded".

Al Ahram concludes the story by saying that the Arab League has not yet replied to Bernadotte's message. It is noted, however, that the paper says at the beginning of the story that the Jewish approach was made to the Egyptian government itself.

Turkish mediation advocated.

Al Ikhwan publishes the following story: Istanbul August 8 (ANA) - In an exclusive interview with the ANA, Dr. W.I. Wright, of Princeton University, today declared that he considered the plan for a federated Arab-Zionist Palestine still held good. As a member of the Committee of Peace and Justice in the Holy Land, he has during the last year given hundreds of lectures as well as radio and television broadcasts to counteract "astute and unprincipled Zionist propaganda". He is spending the summer in Turkey where he is writing a book.

"Microscopic countries such as Israel", he said, "can only exist by agreement with their more powerful neighbours. Israel should, therefore, adopt a policy of conciliation leading to federation. The Arab States likewise would be well advised to recognize that they can hardly expel the entire Jewish population of Palestine, and they should therefore seek a way of absorbing them in a federation.

"I can think of no Government so well fitted by knowledge of Middle Eastern and international affairs as the Turkish Government to offer its good offices as mediator in the Palestine dispute."